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Western School Corporation
Bylaws & Policies**5111 - DETERMINATION OF LEGAL SETTLEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY FOR ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS WITHOUT LEGAL THE CORPORATION**

The Board establishes the following policy for determining student eligibility to attend the schools of this Corporation.

- A. The Board will educate, tuition free, students who have legal settlement in the Corporation, and students enrolled according to the requirements of I.C. 20-26-11.
- B. Where the legal settlement of a student cannot reasonably be determined by reference to the residence of the student's parent or legal guardian and the student is being supported by and living with a person whose residence is within the School Corporation, the student may be enrolled without payment of tuition. If the parents are able to support the student and have placed the student in the home of another person primarily for the purpose of attending school in this Corporation without establishing legal guardianship as required by Indiana law, tuition will be charged.
- C. A child who is placed in foster care by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be admitted tuition free, without regard to residency, to a school within the Corporation, as selected by the State Department of Human Services or the child placing agency responsible for placement of that child.
- D. Foreign students participating in a foreign-exchange program approved by the Indiana State Board of Education and living with a resident host family will be admitted tuition free.
- E. The Corporation will provide a free education to those students who are considered by Federal law to be illegal aliens, if the student's parent or legal guardian has legal settlement within the Corporation, or considered to be homeless by criteria established by the State (see Policy 5111.01 and AG 5111.01 - Homeless Students).
- F. Students who have completed the eleventh grade and have changed legal settlement to another school corporation may complete the twelfth grade in this Corporation.
- G. A married student living with a spouse or a married or unmarried emancipated minor is eligible to attend school without payment of tuition if the student resides in the Corporation.
- H. **Children of Divorced Parents**

Children of divorced parents may attend school in this Corporation without the payment of tuition if one (1) parent resides in this Corporation and a timely election is made utilizing the "Custodial Statement and Agreement: Divorce, Separation, or Abandonment" form provided by the Indiana State Board of Education.

Not later than fourteen (14) days before the first student day of the school year for which the parent seeks enrollment, the parent with physical custody of the child must notify the Superintendent of the school corporation in which the parents seek to have the student enrolled of their election to enroll the child in the Corporation. The election may be for no less than one (1) school year.

Transfer Students

In addition to students with legal settlement in the Corporation, students without legal settlement in the Corporation (hereafter referred to as "transfer students") will comply with I.C. 20-26-11-32 and the following procedure:

- A. By May 1st for the 1st semester of the following school year and December 1st for the 2nd semester of the current school year, the Board will establish the number of transfer students that can be accepted in each building and grade level.
- B. The Board will establish a date by which requests to enroll a transfer student must be submitted to the Superintendent. This date shall be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education and published on the Corporation Internet website.
- C. Requests to enroll a student without legal settlement in the Corporation shall not be denied if the student to be transferred:
 1. has been enrolled in the Corporation in the prior school year;
 2. is a member of a household in which any other member of the household is a student in the transferee school; or
 3. has a parent who is an employee of the Corporation.
- D. If the number of requests to enroll in each building and grade level exceeds the number established by the Board reduced by the number of transfers that may not be denied as described in paragraph (C) above, the students to be enrolled in each building and grade level shall be determined by random selection in which each application submitted on or before the date established by the Board pursuant to paragraph (A) above has an equal chance of being selected.

An application to transfer to the Corporation may be denied if the student has been suspended (as defined in I.C. 20-33-8-7) or expelled (as defined in I.C. 20-33-8-10) within the 12 months preceding the student's request to transfer for:

- A. ten (10) or more school days;
- B. possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, or a destructive device as described in I.C. 20-33-8-16;
- C. causing physical injury to a student, a school employee, or a visitor to the school; or
- D. a violation of a school corporation's drug or alcohol rules.

For purposes of computing the number of days of discipline of the student requesting enrollment, student discipline received from a teacher pursuant to I.C. 20-33-8-10 described in subdivisions (2) through (4) shall be included in the calculation of the number of school days that a student has been suspended.

No transfer student shall be accepted for enrollment for athletic reasons.

I.C. 20-18-2-11 (legal settlement defined)
I.C. 20-33-2-12 (transfer to another accredited or non-accredited school)
I.C. 20-33-8-17 (expulsion for lack of legal settlement)
I.C. 20-26-11-1 (residence defined)
I.C. 20-26-11-2.5 (divorced parent election)
I.C. 20-26-11-6(e) (option to not charge transfer tuition)
I.C. 20-26-11-32 (lottery selection of student transfer requests, HEA 1381 – 2013)
Plyer v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982) (State Statute denying free public education to illegal immigrants violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment)
Divorced Parents Agreement:
<http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/legal/tormiii.pdf>
Third Party Agreement:
<http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/legal/custodialstatementinstructions.pdf>

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